Monday Feb 12.

Took the Hingham Stage for Boston — I had a very comfortable ride & got a great deal of information about banks — & heard much business gossip — the stage was not at all delayed by the snow — and I got to Boylston Street about 10½ — found that all was going on well & that Mr Birney was to address the committee in the State house in the ~~morning~~ afternoon — I went into my school — dined early — & went to the Hall — Mr B was very interesting though — he does not make the most of any of his powerful arguments — but his mild & distinct method of stating them may have as much weight as a different manner or method — however we may be accused of being men & women of one idea the advocates of our cause do much differ in the manner of their advocacy — I saw Mr Quincy in good spirits not having at all suffered from his walk —

as we were leaving the Hall much charmed with the plea for "our cause" — Henrietta Sargent a very amiable & dear friend asked us to go home with her — to take tea with her & Mrs Child and a few friends — we spent a very delightful evening — I forgot to say that Mr Quincy walked down to Poplar Street with me — & we had much interesting talk about

Hingham - & Mrs Smith would be quite vain if I should relate the whole conversation at 10 I got home a little tired -

Wednesday morning - I kept school all the morning - & gave a lesson in painting - dined early in order to get to the State house in time to hear the continuation of Mr Birneys Speech - a crowded house as the idea that Angelina Grimke was to speak prevailed extensively - it was a touching and a painful sight to see the representatives of a free people sitting in solemn conclave - doubtful of the the expediency of _justice_ - uninformed comparatively - of principles upon which they should have built their political faith - and before them stood pleading for truth & liberty - the repentant Slaveholder! - ~~and~~ the sometime infidel - asking that righteous legislation should advance the coming of the Saviour's reign - She could not finish that afternoon - & the committee cheerfully granted a farther hearing - & Friday afternoon was appointed - I have left out Tuesday I see which was a very interesting day - as a succession of agreeable people called & I did not keep school, it was Debora's day -

In the evening we had a _large small_ party at Mrs Chapman's - where we had - Mr Birney Mr & Mrs Child, Wendell Phillips, John W Browne - Edmund Quincy - Francis Jackson his Son & daughter - and many other friends of the cause - I forgot George Bancroft - the Historian - & Politician whom I liked much

though I am sorry to say the story I heard respecting him at Hingham is current here - I do not believe a word of it —
we staid late & had a sad rain to go home in — I go back now to Wednesday evening at the State house — I found that Miss Grimké had written to the Committee asking for a hearing — Mr Alvord after Birney concluded called the Committee together in a private room - & then & there they decided to hear the ladies on Wednesday & thursday of this week — Mr Blake of Boston (Geo Blake) remarked - "it is their right to speak —" - I was surprised at this — I went directly to the Cambridge Hourly from the State house - with my friend John Owen of Cambridge - having been engaged for some time to pass the next day with them — It was a quiet uninterrupted day. Thursday. & in the evening we went to hear Mr Emerson - I am going to the whole course it was a most delightful lecture - he thinks all goes wrong in the world because all or so many are out of place - the "round pins are in square holes" Friday morning I returned to Boston - was in school till noon - a bitter snow storm - this did not however prevent us from again seeking the hall of Legislation where Brother Birney was to conclude his argument — to my surprise there was a large assembly convened - and many ladies after Mr Birney concluded - the Committee or their chairman stated that their wish was to avail themselves as far as possible of Mr Birney's experience - & accurate information & they would place in his hands

some questions which had occurred to different individuals of their number while he had been speaking — he answered the questions — which embraced a variety of subjects — with great readiness bringing fact — argument & illustration to prove the positions he assumed in each case — I think the committee were favourably impressed — we went to Chauncy place to tea to the house of Mrs Chapman Seniors where a very delightful Anti Slavery party was assembled — I had in the course of this evening much interesting conversation with Mr Birney — & I cannot tell you how much I was taken with his bland & benevolent character — I spent the night with Mary Chapman — Sat morning I was in School — [illegible] not attending this week of [illegible] — I was constrained by business as well as inclination to go in the afternoon to Roxbury where I spent the Sabbath with old friends — & came home this Monday morning — to begin another week

I do not see, but that the same routine is before me for the next — This evening Dear Brother May is to lecture at the Odeon Tomorrow evening he is to lecture to the coloured people at West Boston & as he is rather scarce now I must go to hear him — Wednesday aft. the Grimkes before the Committee — & Thursday afternoon the same Thursday evening — Mr Emersons Lecture at Cam-

brings so many things (each of great interest I know of — that does this week will bring forth the [illegible] to be seen but there is a rumour in town that the Hon. Attorney G. Austin intends to address that committee — against the prayer of the Petitioners — after the Sisters Grimké have concluded — if so there will be fair sport — I rather hope he will

Ms. A. 9. 2. 6. 68